

Please amend Claims 50, 63-66, 69, 91, 103-106 and 128-131.

50. (Thrice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a protein comprising:
 - (a) combining a protein, a phospholipid, a co-solvent, said co-solvent including an aqueous solvent and an organic solvent, and, optionally, a buffer salt, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized protein;
wherein the particles consist of the stabilized protein, the phospholipid and, optionally, the buffer salt, and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.
63. (Amended) The method of Claim 50 wherein the spray-dried particles have a tap density less than about 0.1 g/cm³.
64. (Amended) The method of Claim 50 wherein the spray-dried particles have a tap density less than about 0.05 g/cm³.
65. (Amended) The method of Claim 50 wherein the spray-dried particles have a median geometric diameter of between about 5 microns and about 30 microns.
66. (Amended) The method of Claim 50 wherein the spray-dried particles have an aerodynamic diameter of between about 1 micron and about 5 micron.
69. (Thrice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a peptide comprising:
 - (a) combining a peptide, a phospholipid, a co-solvent, said co-solvent including an aqueous solvent and an organic solvent, and, optionally, a buffer salt, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized peptide;

wherein the particles consist of the stabilized peptide, the phospholipid and, optionally, the buffer salt, and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.

91. (Thrice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a protein comprising:
 - (a) combining a protein, a phospholipid, an organic solvent, and, optionally, a buffer salt, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized protein;
wherein the particles consist of the stabilized protein, the phospholipid and, optionally, the buffer salt, and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.
103. (Amended) The method of Claim 91 wherein the spray-dried particles have a tap density less than about 0.1 g/cm³.
104. (Amended) The method of Claim 91 wherein the spray-dried particles have a tap density less than about 0.05 g/cm³.
105. (Amended) The method of Claim 91 wherein the spray-dried particles have a median geometric diameter of between about 5 microns and about 30 microns.
106. (Amended) The method of Claim 91 wherein the spray-dried particles have an aerodynamic diameter of between about 1 micron and about 5 micron.
128. (Twice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a protein comprising:
 - (a) combining a protein, a phospholipid, a buffer salt and a co-solvent, said co-solvent including an aqueous solvent and an organic solvent, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized protein;

wherein the particles consist of the stabilized protein, the phospholipid and the buffer salt and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.

129. (Twice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a peptide comprising:
 - (a) combining a peptide, a phospholipid, a buffer salt and a co-solvent, said co-solvent including an aqueous solvent and an organic solvent, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized peptide;
wherein the particles consist of the stabilized peptide, the phospholipid and the buffer salt and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.
130. (Twice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a protein comprising:
 - (a) combining a protein, a phospholipid, a buffer salt and an organic solvent, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized protein;
wherein the particles consist of the stabilized protein, the phospholipid and the buffer salt and wherein the phospholipid is present in the particles in an amount of at least about 10 weight percent.
131. (Twice Amended) A method for producing spray-dried particles having improved stability of a peptide comprising:
 - (a) combining a peptide, a phospholipid, a buffer salt and an organic solvent, to form a mixture; and
 - (b) spray-drying said mixture to produce spray-dried particles comprising a stabilized peptide;